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The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" All of them who sought admission have been accommodated."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—" May I enquire whether there is any other school in the Telugu country ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The idea was to open a school at Guntur; it is under contemplation."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—" Is it going to materialize ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I cannot promise it now."

Progress of the reconstruction of the Cocanada hospital.

*705 Q.—Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the project for the reconstruction of the headquarters hospital at Cocanada, estimates for which were sanctioned in 1921, stands at present;

(b) whether the site adjoining the Lady Havelock Hospital has been acquired; if not, in what stage the acquisition proceedings stand at present; and

(c) whether Government propose to expedite all necessary preliminaries so that the work may be taken on hand early ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Proposals for the acquisition of land and for the construction of new buildings near the Lady Havelock Hospital have been received from the Surgeon-General and are under consideration in connexion with the budget estimate for 1929–30.

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" May I ask whether the estimates for this hospital were sent so long ago as 1921 ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" They were sent so long ago as 1921 but there was some controversy about the matter; the estimates were sent again in 1926."

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" Has any provision been made in the budget for the next year for this hospital ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" It is under contemplation; the matter has been sent to the Finance Department."

Public Health

Supply of Sunlight soap to the cholera staff by municipalities.

*706 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) why the Government thought it fit to impose upon the municipalities the duty of supplying Sunlight soap to the cholera staff during times of epidemics;

(b) whether they considered the claims of their own Washwell soap before they imposed such a condition; and

(c) whether they could not find one Indian soap worthy of encouragement ?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) In the rules framed by the Government to regulate the action to be taken to combat cholera in municipal areas, municipal councils are required *inter alia* to store four cakes of 'Sunlight' soap. This soap, owing to its quality, cheapness and ready availability in all markets, has come to be recognized as the typical utility soap, but there was no intention to prevent municipal councils from stocking similar soaps of the same quality manufactured in India or elsewhere if they preferred to.

(*c*) The Government propose to amend the rules in question so that municipal councils who prefer to purchase 'Washwell' or other soaps of the same quality as 'Sunlight' may be made more clearly aware that they are at liberty to do so.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"With regard to the answer to clause (*c*) of the question, may I know whether the Government have issued instructions?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Not yet."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know when they will issue them?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I cannot say that exactly; all I can say is that the matter is under consideration."

Location of the Hindu cremation ground near Attaiyampatti in Salem taluk.

* 707 *Q.*—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware that the caste Hindus cremate dead bodies very near the village of Attaiyampatti (Adi-Dravida village), Salem taluk, causing great inconvenience to the villagers;

(*b*) whether he is aware that the village well is very near the cremation ground and that consequently the whole well gets filled with ashes after the cremation; and

(*c*) what steps the Government or the health authorities in Salem taluk propose to take in this matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The District Health Officer has selected another suitable site for the burning ground and the President, District Board, Salem, has addressed the President, Taluk Board, to take immediate action to close the existing burning ground and provide another.

Location of the Muhammadan burial-ground in Aspari village, Alur taluk.

* 708 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Muhammadans of Aspari village, Alur taluk, Bellary district, are burying their dead in the bed of the village tank; and

(*b*) whether any steps have been taken to give them an unobjectionable place for burial-ground?